

Indiana Asthma Emergency Department Visits and Hospitalizations

In 2005, an estimated

- 380,000 adults (8.2%) had current asthma
- 140,000 children (8.4%) had current asthma

In 2005, asthma accounted for

- 24,320 emergency department visits (Rate: 39.2 per 10,000 Indiana residents)
- 8,302 hospitalizations (Rate: 13.2 per 10,000 Indiana residents)
- 85 deaths

Emergency Department [ED] Visits

- 16.2% of adults with current asthma reported visiting an emergency room or an urgent care center for their asthma in the last 12 months. Two-thirds of these adults reported two or more visits.
- Total emergency department costs in 2005 for a discharge diagnosis of asthma were \$25,002,659 with an average cost of \$1,028 per visit.
- Self pay for asthma ED visits made up more than \$3 million or approximately 14.1% of charges.

Hospitalizations

- The age-adjusted hospitalization rate per 10,000 Indiana residents was 13.2 in 2005. This is lower than the national rate of 16.6 in 2005.
- Total inpatient charges for hospitalizations with a primary discharge diagnosis of asthma were \$73,482,966 in 2005. This resulted in an average cost of \$8,851 per asthma hospitalization.

Disparities

- Blacks had an ED rate more than three times that of whites (94.7 per 10,000 vs. 28.3 per 10,000).
- Overall, females had an ED rate of 43.9 per 10,000 while males had an ED rate of 34.3 per 10,000. Interestingly, among children 0-14, males have higher ED rates than females.
- Young children had the highest ED rates compared with all other age groups. Children 0-4 had the highest rate of 81.5 per 10,000, followed by children 5-9 with a rate of 59.3 per 10,000. The asthma ED rate decreased with the increase of age so that people 85 years and older had the lowest rate (9.6 per 10,000) of all age groups.

Source: *The Burden of Asthma in Indiana: Second Edition, March 2008*

More statistics on asthma in Indiana, including hospitalization and ED visits by county, can be found at <http://www.in.gov/isdh/programs/asthma/pdfs/IndianaBurden.pdf>.